



FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

428 J Street • Suite 620 • Sacramento, CA 95814-2329

(916) 322-5660 • Fax (916) 322-0886

January 22, 2010

William Bratton

REDACTED

Advisory Letter Re: FPPC Case No. 08/646, William J. Bratton

Dear Mr. Bratton:

The Fair Political Practices Commission (the "FPPC") enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the "Act"),¹ found in Government Code section 81000, et seq. We received a complaint about a ring you received as a gift in October 2007 from Mr. and Mrs. Rick Coruso while you the Police Chief of the Los Angeles Police Department. Specifically, the complaint alleged that the ring was valued at \$7,500, and therefore was in violation of the Act. After an investigation, we have found insufficient evidence to establish a violation of the Act. We have decided to close this matter with an advisory letter. Our decision was based on the fact that you returned the gift within ninety days without contact from the FPPC, and apparently delayed the return beyond thirty days solely to ascertain the gift's value.

Please be advised, with regards to gifts, the Act requires "no member of a state board or commission or designated employee of a state or local government agency shall accept gifts from any single source in any calendar year with a total value of more than two hundred fifty (\$250)." (Gov't Code Section 89503(c).) This gift limit is adjusted annually by the Commission, and "the adjusted annual gift limitation amount in effect for the period January 1, 2007, to December 31, 2008, is \$390." (2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18940.2(a).)

¹ The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code sections 81000 through 91014. All statutory references are to the Government Code, unless otherwise indicated. The regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission are contained in sections 18110 through 18997 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations. All regulatory references are to Title 2, Division 6 of the California Code of Regulations, unless otherwise indicated.

Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act in the future may result in an enforcement action, including monetary penalties of up to \$5,000 for each violation.

The FPPC publishes forms and manuals to facilitate compliance with the Act. For forms, amendments, a manual, or guidance regarding obligations, please call the FPPC's Technical Assistance Division at (866) 275-3772, Monday through Friday, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Please also visit our website at www.fppc.ca.gov.

If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact Milad Dalju at (916) 322-7609.

Sincerely,

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GARY S. WINUK
Division Chief
Enforcement Division

GSW/md